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Lake Orakai, Hawkes Bay  
Photo: Alan Fielding



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# Flight

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## Feature Article

# The 100 Mile House DU Dinner

BRENDAN COE

Portland, Seattle and Vancouver pass my criteria for beautiful cities; if there can be such places. Trees and water are their predominant features. The soothing greens of the vast conifer forests that run to the edge of blue and green lakes arrest the eye and smooth the obtrusion of the houses streets and tall buildings that form the residential and commercial areas of these places. It all serves to remind me that New Zealanders do not plant enough trees - especially rural folk, the endless rolling green paddocks of our country are often only broken by wire fences instead of copses and small forests of trees. I think of England, a country covered in trees, yet most plantings are less than one hundred years old, there being nothing left of the original forest. In my home town of Lower Hutt the miles of stopbank created in the 1950's to prevent flooding of the Hutt River stand as a testimonial to the lack of foresight by the then city fathers that is reflected in the few trees and miles of grass that flank both sides of the water. Think to what can be done and of the banks of the Wanganui River which is a forest of trees on both sides - native and exotic, deciduous and evergreen the whole providing an attractive spectacle and representing an asset to that city. Perhaps today such a planting programme would concentrate on copses of trees of the same type, or with an emphasis on native species, but it is in everyway preferable to grass.

I have come from Auckland to Los Angeles and then on to Seattle and Vancouver to stay with a friend in British Columbia. The first night is passed in long hours of sleep and I



A selection of auction items.

have found that my body clock only takes a night to adjust and that I do not suffer from jetlag. A day spent walking the streets of Vancouver sight seeing and the next morning I arrive at the B.C. Rail Centre in North Vancouver to start the eight hour - 400 km journey north. Eight hours is a long time to take to travel such a relatively short distance, but I am soon to find out why.

The train leaves at 7.30 am sharp and for the next two hours we skirt the very edge of the shore of Vancouver Sound and on up the edge of Howe Sound. The route is something like the train or road journey along parts of the Kaikoura coast in relation to the proximity of the sea. Deep and very blue water stretches over the vast area of the sounds, dotted here and there with small boats and a large and modern ferry steaming north. All around rise steep slopes of granite clothed in cedar forest, a timber much prized in New Zealand and

very common in Canada. We pass expensive houses along the shore, all with shingle style roofs that come in such a variety and colour. Many homes lead down to private jetties and boating is obviously very popular around Vancouver.

Breakfast is served as we travel slowly along the Birkenhead River, its shallow waters full of spawning salmon in their thousands. The train edges along a steep gorge with a tumbling stream far below and I begin to understand why the journey takes so long on this tortuous track. Leaving the sea and salmon behind we travel along the edge of huge and very deep lakes for some hours. Looking at the steep mountains rising from the water's edge I realise why travel by canoe was so important to the early explorers, much of the land looks impassable. As we approach the town of Lillooet the mountains rise more steeply into huge slides and rock

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Cover Photo: Jim Campbell presents Neil Hayes with the Bill Barrett Trophy. Photo Di Wilks

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bluffs and I see some rocky mountain goats showing as white specks on country that our tar would inhabit. Past Lillooet and a mule deer leaping into the woods we come to the Fraser River. This river and its valley are huge, there is nothing comparable in New Zealand and we are told of the monumental task the goldminers had pushing through a route. I can believe this as the train snakes very slowly along ledges and across loose shingle above the river 2000 feet below.

Abruptly we are out of the Fraser Valley and into the Cariboo Country. Spelled Cariboo or Caribo this vast area is named after the deer species that I have always seen spelled as Caribou. The country is heavily forested in pine and spruce with poplar and aspen showing up in their glorious autumn colours. It is so picturesque, the dark green and riot of yellow as far as the eye can see with here and there lakes big and small that all have ducks on them, gathered in groups and ready for the long flight and warmer weather south down the great North American flyways.

On and on we go, the train at last travelling at speed after six hours of winding track, heading north towards Alaska and the town of 100 Mile House, so named because the goldminers stopped to rest at this milestone. My friend is there and we drive through the town, about the size of Featherston and on out to his ranch and log cabin set beside two lakes named Straight lake and Roundup lake. I am to stay there four days and the stunning beauty of the setting never leaves me during that time. Meadows of grass show here and there among the green and yellow of the trees that stretch endlessly. Straight lake runs from below the house for two miles and there are mallard, scaup, bufflehead and Canada geese dotted about. From the comfort of the lounge I achieve one of my ambitions, to see Canada geese fly in Canada. There are mule deer here, which I see often and moose and bear which were not about during my stay. Wild and free, the Cariboo country is frontier country. At an elevation of 3000 feet and with only a three month summer, the winter temperatures can go down to forty below zero and the people reflect the environment. Tough, practical, down to earth and friendly, they remind me very much of New Zealanders.

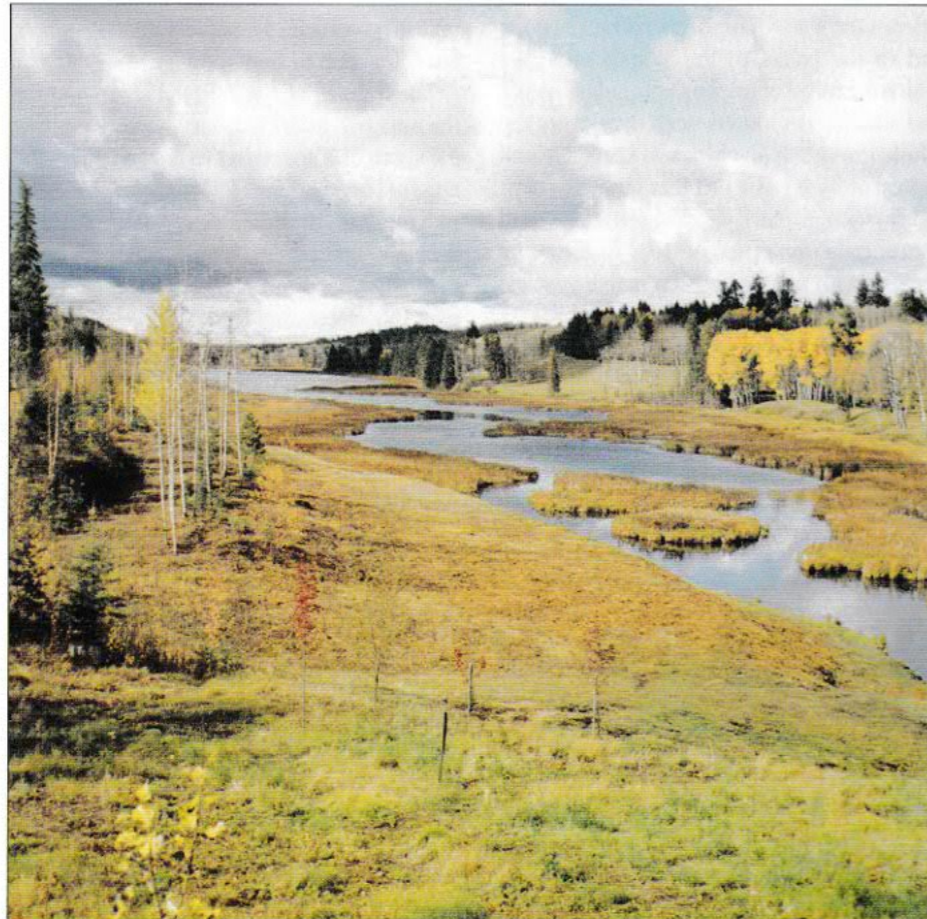
The dinner is on the Friday night at a restaurant lodge a little way out of town. I have already met Ralph Fossum, one of the leading DU Committee men at 100 Mile and a passionate fisherman. He tells me that he

fishes mostly for rainbow trout of around one to one and a half pounds and also that the hunting season is on and that many of the locals take this opportunity to fill their freezers with venison and moose meat. I meet Ralph again at the door where everyone is given a 1992 DU badge on entry and buy some books of raffle tickets from Eamon McArdle, another active committee member. The raffles are excellent in as much as you tear off part of the ticket and put it in the tin beside the item you want to try and win. There are some forty items and this system gives good variety and choice. Later the winning numbers are called. Beginners luck holds me in good stead and I win two prizes.

Drinks are purchased at the bar and snacks are served continuously as 125 people socialize and look at the auction items. The 100 Mile House Ducks Unlimited Dinner is famous throughout Canada for the amount of money raised from such a sparsely populated area, up to twenty thousand dollars in past years. Most people in the community give and only that day I had met Andreä Vaillancourt who runs a print and art shop in the town. Her contribution was to frame all the prints at the dinner which she has done magnificently. There were some dozen or so



Raffle tickets are put in containers beside the item - a good system.



A typical lake in British Columbia



Doing it for the ducks.

silent auction items and forty main, or as the Canadians say, live auction items. As well they have door prizes and a special raffle for a shotgun. The majority of items are of DU origin with a greater variety than we are used to seeing in this country. All is set for a successful evening.

Soon everyone is seated at the tables which have carved wood signs at each one with names such as widgeon, scaup and mallard. The Master of Ceremonies gets everyone organised, talks about DU's history and helps draw the raffles. The food starts to arrive next and it is very good. Excellent homebaked bread with a salad and then the main course of stuffed gamehen followed by Black Forest gateau. The meal is served with the excellent red and white wines from British Columbia's fruit-bowl region the Okanagan. Some



Mule deer are plentiful in B.C.

locals I talked to were less than enthusiastic about their wines, preferring imported varieties, which was odd as they are very good and I suspect they are missing out on a treat.

And so into the Auction which most people reading this will be familiar with. One improvement I noted was local stalwart Larry Ramey who carried each item on display from table to table as it was being auctioned. Decoys were surprisingly cheap, from \$250 to \$350, but the prints were keenly sought after with local artist Andrew Kiss fetching top price of \$750 for a print of a wolf looking over a now covered landscape. My favourite item was a box of superb trout flies tied by committee member Bob Campbell. They went for several hundred dollars and looked to be worth every cent.

"We want to send everyone home feeling good about the experience of a DU dinner." Ralph Fossum had told me and from my observations that was certainly achieved. Doing it for the ducks is the event of the year in the Cariboo and a good cross section of the community were there, at least those who could get tickets, which sell out fast.

The next day my friend took me to look at a local DU project which comprised a series of lakes in a chain along a beautiful valley. Imagine a wide shallow valley some five miles long, the sides girt with green and gold trees running down to big open meadows that surround lakes and wetlands full of ducks. Dammed to raise their level, these wetlands show DU in action on a grand scale. Land in the Cariboo is cheap. You can buy a cabin with a few acres on the edge of a wild lake for \$20,000 or so and I now understand why a lot of people do. I could too, but tomorrow I had to go to Minneapolis and then on to Wyoming: which is another story.

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# THE 1992 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## Marie McEntee DUNZ Secretary

The Annual General Meeting was formally opened by the newly appointed Chairman of the Board for Ducks Unlimited, Jim Campbell. He welcomed all those present, in particular Mr Esmond Jarvis, the Canadian High Commissioner, Mike and Shirley Olsen from DU Australia, John and Alison Bishop and Bob and Jan Moffat from Dow Elanco and the guest speaker John Craig and his wife Anne Stewart. A total of 41 members and friends were present.

Apologies were received from, Lady Diana Isaac, Ian and Dawn Pirani, Paul and Cheryl Pirani, Mike Harper and Anne Ruston (DU Australia), Noel Hellyer, Don Merton, Mike Hucks, Tom and Di Caithness, Mary and Jim Cook, David Wilks, Gwenda Pulham, Norman Marsh and Mark Newcomb. These were sustained on the motion of D Pritt and C Hooson. The minutes of the 1991 AGM as published in the September 1991 issue of "Flight," were confirmed as a true and correct record on the motion of G Hansen and C Hooson.

### PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jim Campbell summarized his report which had appeared in the previous edition of "Flight" and highlighted a number of points. He thanked Neil Hayes, who had recently retired from the board, for his long contribution to Ducks Unlimited during the 17 years he had been a director.

Jim commented on Chris Morrison's visit to NZ from Canada and expressed his pleasure

in hosting Chris during his five months in NZ. He thanked all the project supervisors for their continued work and support and in particular, he paid tribute to Caroline Carey for her work in creating the new DUNZ Duck Bonds which were to go on sale at the conference for the first time. Jim also highlighted the highly successful inaugural DUNZ National Sporting Clay Championships which were organised by the Eketahuna Chapter in November of last year. He said that this format of clay target shooting was becoming very popular and he was looking forward to this year's championships which were being organised by the Wellington Chapter and would be run in late October or early November.

Jim announced that DUNZ's long time friend Norman Marsh had accepted the position of DUNZ Co-Patron, a position he would hold jointly with Lady Diana Isaac. Jim also congratulated Don Merton on the recent award of his Honourary Doctorate of Science from Massey University. This had been awarded to Don for his lifelong involvement and dedication to the conservation of NZ's threatened species.

Jim then recalled the successful public launch of Pauline Morse's 1992 Ducks Unlimited Artist of the Year painting of a pair of Brown Teal. The launch and award ceremony was held in Wellington in March and was attended by over 80 people, including DUNZ supporters, politicians and the press. He said that DUNZ was honoured to have Mr Roger Sowry, the MP for Kapiti, in attendance to unveil the painting and to present Pauline with her award. The launch received some high profile coverage in the press which promoted both DUNZ and "Operation

Pateke."

Jim then moved on to talk about his recent trip to Adelaide for the launch of the newly created DU Australia. For Jim the particular highlight was the inaugural dinner. Jim hoped that a new DU partner so close to DUNZ would help lessen the feeling of remoteness from DU in North America. He wished DU Australia all the very best in their formative years.

On his return to NZ Jim was presented with a cheque for US \$10,000 from Dr Duncan Sinclair, the Chairman of the Board of DU Canada. Jim acknowledged this magnificent support for our domestic wetland conservation activities, and thanked DU Canada for their continued confidence in DUNZ. These funds have now been channelled into the Pearce Wetlands which are of national importance. Finally Jim thanked the directors and all the DUNZ members for their support and involvement over the past year. Jim then moved that his annual report be accepted which was seconded by A Wilks and carried.

Jim then welcomed David Rice to the meeting as the new President of Ducks Unlimited New Zealand, and formally handed the chair over to him. David said that he was humbled to take over as President considering he was only a "new boy on the block" and had to step into the President's shoes after the leadership of both Jim and Neil. He then briefly explained his involvement with DUNZ which had begun six years ago when the Auckland Chapter was resurrected and he became the chapter chairperson. David then introduced each member of the DUNZ Board to the meeting, along with the chapter chairmen who were present.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1992

### FINANCIAL REPORT

As Treasurer, Glenys Hansen then circulated the audited 1991-1992 financial records which she emphasized would be published with the AGM report in the October issue of "Flight." The meeting approved the continuation of the current auditors, Eastwood and Partners of Masterton and carried this, and the financial accounts, on the motion of G Hansen and C Hooson.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Dr Grant Dumbell said that one word summarized the past year for DUNZ, and that was consolidation. Consolidation financially, internationally and domestically. Grant said that DUNZ has passed a milestone having raised its millionth dollar during the 1991-92 financial year. A quick look at the graph for total income since 1974 showed that DUNZ was looking forward to a good future. While the income was down since the heady days of the 1980's, it was important to note that the 1991-92 income was almost identical to 1990. Over the past year a cut in administration expenses had also allowed an increase in project spending. Grant said that DUNZ has also made huge gains in retiring its debt burden having reduced this by over 50% over the past three years. He said that DUNZ's biggest challenge was to now increase its financial strength through increased membership and that this was being addressed in the current year.

Internationally DUNZ had consolidated its good relationships with DU Canada and DU Inc and now looks forward to building a firm relationship with DU Australia. Further to this, links have been consolidated with

other wetland centres around the world through DUNZ's involvement with "Wetland Link International." During his trip to DU Canada in June 1991, Grant learnt a tremendous amount about the activities of DU Canada so that DUNZ can avoid re-inventing the wheel. Through David Rice's trip to the USA and Grant's trip to Canada, DUNZ had had representatives at both the Canadian and American conventions during 1991.

Consolidation was also achieved at home, initially through amendments to the constitution. This was designed to focus DUNZ on the needs of its chapters and to increase accountability at board level. The hard earned experiences of the board were to be maintained through the creation of the new position of Chairman, which is filled by the Past President. The consolidation of DUNZ's identity was begun through the development of a new logo. Grant then asked David Rice to officially unveil the new DUNZ logo and explain its significance. David said that the duckhead represented DUNZ's international connections while the flax represented DUNZ's New Zealand connection as this plant is unique to New Zealand. Together the duckhead and the flax represented the links between wetland plants and animals. The water showed DUNZ's emphasis on wetlands while the background landscape illustrated that wetlands are part of the total New Zealand landscape and should not be viewed in isolation. Finally the Southern Cross reinforced NZ's global positioning and DUNZ's identity. Grant said that the logo would be launched in the October issue of "Flight," and would now begin to appear on all DUNZ material.

Grant then moved onto the area of corporate sponsorship which he said had begun to flow in, in 1991. He especially thanked; Canadian Airlines, Lithographic Services, Halcyon Publishing, Great Northern Merchants (Mitre 10), Broadlands Wildfowl Trust, Waimara Trust, Kerry Butler, Westpac and Dow Elanco. These sponsors have supplied

products and services and made cash contributions which had greatly assisted DUNZ's projects and activities over the past year.

Grant then handed over to David Rice for the official presentation of the Dow Elanco sponsorship.

David introduced the Mr John Bishop, the General Manager of Dow Elanco who presented the company's sponsorship package of a boat, outboard motor, oars and other accessories to DUNZ. John introduced Dow Elanco's new logo which appears on the boat, and emphasized its green image which he believed tied in well with DUNZ and its new logo which will also be screen printed onto the boat. John then handed the boat over to David Rice who presented John with an Appreciation Certificate for Dow Elanco for their major contribution to DUNZ. David said that the boat would be an enormous help for DUNZ's field work including grey teal nest box servicing and general wetland work.

In conclusion, Grant Dumbell thanked the directors and all the members who he had come in contact with, for their support over the year. He said 1991 saw the laying of the foundation for DUNZ's future growth. In 1992 DUNZ was to focus on building the engine room to create the financial strength needed for DUNZ to become the leader in New Zealand wetland conservation.

### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

It was sustained on the motion of P Scully and T Williams that Howard Egan and Ken Cook be re-elected as directors from the floor. Graham Gurr was then nominated as another member's representative and this was sustained on the motion of T. Harington and J. Campbell. There being no further nominations David Rice declared the three elected and expressed his thanks for them allowing their names to go forward.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1992

## OPERATION WETLANDS

Project Supervisor Jim Campbell

Jim highlighted a number of episodes over the past year, particularly the visit of Ron Coley the chief engineer for DU Canada. During his time in NZ, Ron visited the Makarua Wetland and the Kaituna Wetland. His expertise in wetland development was of considerable value to DUNZ. Jim said that development of the Makarua Wetland had had to be postponed due to weather and was now programmed to be achieved in early 1993. Jim then explained progress to date with the planned development and restoration of the Whangamarino Wetland which was still awaiting planning consent. In conclusion, Jim emphasized the need for DUNZ to increase its profile through wetland development, as membership would increase as people became aware of DUNZ's work.

## PEARCE WETLANDS

Co-ordinator Alan Wilks. Alan reported that the wetland was still there and unchanged! However, this was important as DUNZ had bought the property to ensure its protection and not to change it. The Board was still progressing with a covenant for the wetland and it was hoped that organised trips could be made to the wetland to enable members and friends to view the area.

## SINCLAIR WETLANDS REPORT

Jim Campbell briefly reported on DUNZ's continuing involvement with the QEII National Trust to ensure that this magnificent wetland received the development resources it required.

## OPERATION PATEKE

Project Supervisor Alan Wilks. Alan reported that 28 DUNZ members were now holding 53 pairs of teal, and up to March 1992 100 birds had been released into the wild. Tracking of the birds was made easier in June 1991, when 33 birds were released at Mimiwhangata Farm Park with 12 females carrying radio transmitters. Alan reported that nine of these birds were killed by predators, two left the study area and one bird laid six eggs, hatched four but did not raise any young. This study has enabled DUNZ to have a clearer picture of the problems facing the birds on release and while it points to the need for predator control, it also emphasizes the importance of habitat restoration. Alan said that DoC were now considering further predator control at the Purerua Peninsula release site in the Bay of Islands, where all the latest releases have taken place. Alan also emphasized that considering the enormous time, effort and money it took to raise, transport and release the birds, that an equal amount of resources should go into developing an hospitable habitat in which to release the birds. Finally Alan acknowledged and paid tribute to the tremendous work done by Neil Hayes as the Project Supervisor over many years.

## OPERATION WHIO

Project Supervisor David Smith. David reported that it had been a puzzling year as not one chick was raised in spite of good numbers of eggs being laid. Most eggs were infertile and only a few hatched. The reason for this is unexplainable particularly as this occurrence was uniform among all breeders. David went on to say that despite

this, a number of positive things had been achieved in the past year, especially bringing the breeding records and the stud book finally up to date. A thorough check on all birds had been achieved over the year and this had resulted in a number of pairing changes being made. These included the placing of unpaired surplus male birds adjacent to breeding pairs to encourage male-male competition as this has been shown to positively influence breeding. Pairs made up of similar aged birds had also been achieved to increase the chance of successful mating while mate swaps among existing pairs had established three separate bloodlines to reduce the chance of inbreeding. David said that DoC had approved the capture of two wild females to further increase the captive gene pool, and it was hoped that DoC may also allow a bonded wild pair to be caught to further diversify the captive breeding stock.

## OPERATION ROYAL SWAN

Project Supervisor Dave Johnson. Dave reported that there had been a number of successes over the past year. Birds had been successfully moved around the country and he particularly thanked Ted Hansen and his Wairarapa friends for their help with these moves. The project inventory was now centralized on computer and all South Island orders had been filled. Dave thanked Jim Campbell, John Andrews and Sharon Walker, Lady Diana Isaac, Ann Stewart, Grant Dumbell and the many others including his wife Anne, for their support and work over the past year. In conclusion Dave offered a few thoughts for the coming year relating to simplifying the transfer operation with DoC. He said there was a very real possibility of releasing mute swan into the wild in the near future and that this would signify a huge milestone for the project.

## OPERATION GRETTEL

Project Supervisor David Rice. David said that over the past year most work had gone into completing the rejuvenation of this project. David reported that with the assistance of Grant Dumbell, Howard Egan most appropriate boxes were relocated, repaired or replaced. David said that Grant was now holding a record of all nest box sites. All boxes were to be serviced annually, which had been made easier by the commitment of Ken Cook to manage the Manawatu boxes. David explained that the Board has set aside funds to enable 300 boxes to be prefabricated and erected over the next several years, thanks to the tremendous work by the Auckland Chapter. David thanked Great Northern Merchants for their generous sponsorship of "Operation Gretel" through the provision of both plywood and nails for the project. David said that all the existing chapters were to receive boxes for erection in their area over the next few months and he saw this project as one which enabled good membership participation with box erection and maintenance. In conclusion he thanked all those who had actively participated in the project over the past year. He said that his aim was to increase the number of boxes to 1000 and to ensure that all of these were placed in sites that would be used and could be easily serviced.

## OPERATION BRANTA

Project Supervisor Chris Hooson. Chris said that this was the first year of full operation under the new operations guidelines. He

reported that banding operations in the Waimarino area had resulted in several captures of previously banded birds. He said that the Waimarino banding was a fine example of interested parties working together, and he thanked both the Taranaki Fish and Game Council and the local DoC staff for their invaluable assistance. Time constraints had prevented any banding in the Wairarapa in the past year. Banding information had already been requested by the Taranaki Fish and Game Council. Chris acknowledged that the Canada Goose continued to be a popular yet controversial bird. In conclusion Chris said that if any members wanted birds then they should contact him prior to Christmas so that they could be placed on the Canada Goose waiting list.

## EDITORIAL REPORT

David Rice spoke on behalf of Brendan Coe who was unable to attend the AGM. He said that a further four issues of "Flight" had been produced during 1991 and that Brendan had been reappointed as the "Flight" editor for the current year. David also explained that publication dates had now been changed to better align these with the DUNZ financial year and annual work plan.

## DUCKS UNLIMITED ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

David Rice unveiled the original waterfowl painting of Brown Teal which had been painted by Pauline Morse. Pauline had been awarded the 1992 DUNZ Artist of the Year Award for this watercolour.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Dr John Craig, Associate Professor of Zoology at Auckland University and the Director of the Centre for Conservation Biology, spoke on "Habitat Restoration: An Account of Bogs, Bog Cleaners, Ducks and Toilet Ducks." His talk traced the history and successes of island restoration in the Hauraki Gulf since his early proposal to restore Tiri Tiri Matangi Island, to the present work with Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands. John was emphatic that DUNZ was a leader in New Zealand wetlands and waterfowl conservation and must be intimately involved in the decision making process for all habitat restoration involving wetlands. John's talk evoked a variety of questions and a lengthy discussion developed on how DUNZ could increase its involvement in wetland restoration.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Tim Harington, the Chairperson of the Eketahuna Chapter raised the issue of DUNZ's stand on lead vs steel shot. David Rice said that Ducks Unlimited was monitoring developments in this area and intended drafting a policy statement on the use of lead shot once further information about its environmental effects in New Zealand is available. Until then, any statement could be misleading or factually incorrect.

## THE BILL BARRETT TROPHY

David Rice announced that this had been awarded to Neil Hayes for his invaluable



# CONFERENCE

## 1992



A group of keen walkers took in the beauty of Lake Rotopounamu on Saturday morning.



left The guest Speaker at the AGM, John Craig from Auckland University Centre for Conservation Biology.

right David Rice announcing that Neil Hayes is this year's recipient of the Bill Barrett Trophy for his outstanding services to DU since 1974.

below David Rice presenting John Bishop of DowElanco with a DUNZ Appreciation Certificate.



above Jim Campbell presenting David Garchow with the Jim Campbell Decoy Carving Trophy.



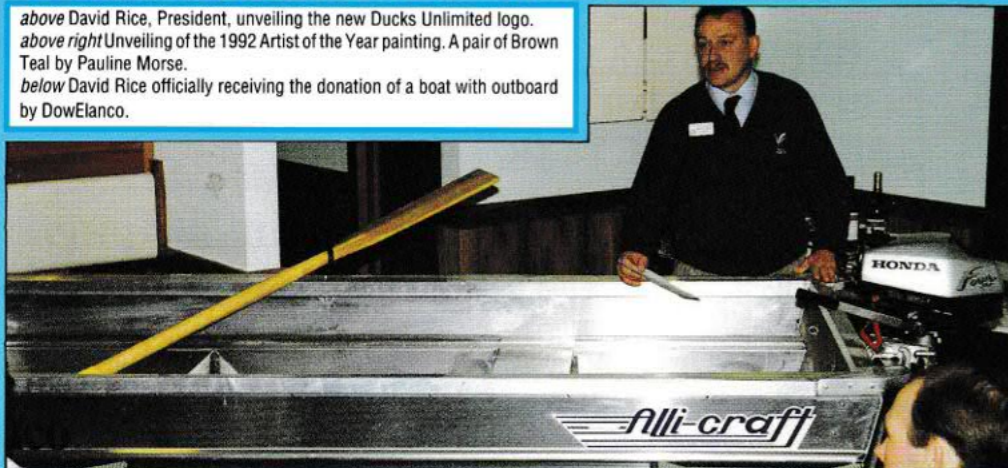
left David Johnson, Operation Royal Swan Project Supervisor, presents Jim Campbell with the Mute Swan Breeder of the Year Award.



above Alan Wilks, Operation Pateke Project Supervisor, accepting on behalf of Hamilton Zoo, the Brown Teal Breeder of the Year Award.



above David Rice, President, unveiling the new Ducks Unlimited logo.  
above right Unveiling of the 1992 Artist of the Year painting. A pair of Brown Teal by Pauline Morse.  
below David Rice officially receiving the donation of a boat with outboard by DowElanco.



left Mick Olsen, President of DU Australia, and David Rice showing the poster painted especially for the official launch of DU Australia.

below Some of the goodies for the main auction.

right David Rice presenting Tim Harington, Chapter Chairman for Eketahuna, with the Chapter Challenge for the most funds raised.





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1992

contribution to Ducks Unlimited over the 17 years he had been a board member. He said that the Eketahuna Chapter would now have tremendous experience available to it through Neil's involvement and residence in the area as a result of his recent move from Wellington.

**THE JIM CAMPBELL  
CARVER OF THE YEAR  
AWARD**

Fred Bailey announced that it had been decided that due to the high standard of entries this year, that prizes would be awarded in a variety of sections. This year the award for the best miniature carving went to Steve Gibbs for his carving of a pair of Brown Teal while the award for the best working decoy went to Graham Garchow for his carving of a mallard. Fred announced that next year three categories would be judged; best miniatures, best working decoy, and best

decorative decoy. He said that anybody who was interested in decoys should sharpen up their chisels and "have a go."

Before closing the meeting, David Rice invited everyone to circulate around the room and view the award winning taxidermy

displays by Wayne Bennett which included waterfowl and other animal scenes. The meeting concluded at 4.10 pm with David Rice inviting everyone to be back in the Conference Room for the annual President's Shout at 7 pm.

**CONFERENCE 1992**

The 80 members and friends who attended this year's Ducks Unlimited annual conference at the Tokaanu Hotel enjoyed a relaxing mix of social activities and conference business.

The weekend began with everybody gathering on the Friday for an informal evening to catch up with friends and acquaintances. As always, Tokaanu's large thermal pool provided a welcome relief after the trip.

The conference programme began on Saturday morning with guided trout fishing for those who wanted an early start and a guided walk to Lake Rotopounamu for those who wanted a more leisurely start to the day. The weather was perfect for an outdoor morning and tour guide Alan Wilks reported that everyone enjoyed the cool mountain air.

The AGM was held on Saturday afternoon in the hotel's new conference facilities and the rearranged programme meant the business end of the weekend was over without any delays. John Craig's invited address exercised the mind after the mornings activities had

exercised the body.

The conference dinner and fundraising auction was again the highlight of the weekend with the hotel staff turning on an excellent buffet meal. This was capped off with Bill Wilkinson's traditional auction cry raising "Bucks for the Ducks." For the stayers amongst those present a late night game of volleyball in the pool provided the perfect nightcap.

On Sunday there was the choice of staying at the hotel to view Wayne Bennett's excellent taxidermy trade display, or heading for the Taupo Gun Club to compete in the Ducks Unlimited National Clay Target Championships.

Overall, the weekend was a great success and bookings are already starting to flow in for next year's event to again be held at Tokaanu. Much of the credit for the weekend's enjoyment must go to Ducks Unlimited's AGM Co-ordinator Diane Pritt who organises the whole conference and marshalls her troops over the weekend to stage such a well run event.

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**AUDITORS' REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC.**

We have audited the financial statements comprising the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the Income and Expenditure Account, together with the Notes thereto, in accordance with accepted auditing standards and have carried out such procedures as we consider necessary.

In common with other organisations of a similar nature, control over the income prior to it being recorded is limited, and there are no practical audit procedures to determine the effect of this limited control.

In our opinion, the financial statements give, subject to the possible effect of the limited control over the income referred to in the preceding paragraph, a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society as at 31 March 1992 and the result of its activities for the year ended on that date.

*Barbara J. Parton*  
*B. Parton*  
EASTWOOD AND PARTNERS  
Chartered Accountants  
Bannister Street  
MASTERTON  
14th July 1992.

**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES TO ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1992**

**A. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
General Accounting Policies**

The general accounting policies recognised as appropriate in the preparation of these financial statements are:

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Revenue earned and expenses incurred are matched using cash accounting.

Reliance has been placed on the assumption that the Society is a going concern.

**Particular Accounting Policies**

The following are the particular accounting policies which have a material effect on the measurement of results and financial position and are unchanged from last year.

**FIXED ASSETS**

Fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is written off on a straight line basis over the estimated economic lives of these assets. The estimated economic lives are as follows:

Buildings	50 years
Equipment and machinery	5 years
Furniture and fittings	5 years

**STOCK**

Stock has been valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value on a FIFO basis.

Stock purchased for Operations is expensed when purchased.

**G.S.T.**

These Statements have been prepared on a G.S.T. exclusive basis.

**B. NOTES TO ACCOUNTS**

**1. Term Liability**

Rural Bank Loan - Secured by 1st Mortgage over Pearce Wetlands. Interest rate per annum - 12.5%  
Term 10 Years from August 1989.  
Balance due 31 March 1992 - \$50,145.  
Installments due within 12 months - \$10,664.00  
Installments due after 12 months - \$79,980.00

**2. Land Values**

a. Sinclair Wetlands 316 HA has been valued in the Schedule of Assets at the Government Valuation dated 1 October 1990 - \$100,000.  
b. Pearce Wetlands 125.3 HA has been valued in the Schedule of Assets at the Government Valuation dated 1 July 1989 - \$63,000.

**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1992**

	1992	1991
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions - Life	21039	5822
- Contributor	17694	19346
- Junior	258	346
- Trade	880	800
- Br. Sponsor	1597	1600
- Sil. Sponsor	333	333
- Gold Sponsor	445	567
	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>42246</b>	<b>28914</b>
Donations - A.G.M.	11406	14610
- Chapter	24945	29500
- Sinclair Wet.	919	2160
- Pearce Wet.	9308	8755
- Sundry	14075	3685
	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b>60653</b>	<b>58710</b>
<b>PLUS OTHER INCOME</b>		
Grazing - Sinclair Wetlands	3334	5005
Profit - National Raffle	4579	5225
Advertising 'Flight'	1947	1954
AGM Conference Fees Profit	832	1297
Profit - 'Royal Swan' project	2192	388
Profit - Sales Trading Account	693	6488
Interest	95	782
Research Contract		8000
	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>116571</b>	<b>116763</b>
	*****	*****

**2. FIXED ASSETS**

	Cost or Valuation	Purchases 1991-92	Accumulated Depreciation	1992 Net Book Value	1991 Net Book Value
<b>SINCLAIR WETLANDS</b>					
- Land 316 HA	100000	-	-	100000	73000
- Buildings	232395	-	23202	210193	214863
- Furn & Fige	8788	-	6664	2124	3881
- Equip & Mach	3314	811	1723	1591	1283
<b>PEARCE WETLANDS</b>					
- Land 125.3 HA	63000	-	-	63000	110000
	408497	811	31589	376908	403027
	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****



**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1992**

	1992 \$	1991 \$
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration:		
- Professional Fees	280	200
- Advertising & Publicity	930	1010
- Bank fees & C/C Comm.	1544	1116
- Printing & Stationery	1499	2336
- 'Flight' Production	14575	15942
- Tolls & Postage	3991	4492
- Travel & Board meetings	5715	6817
- Interest - P/W	7368	8660
- S/W	774	1094
- sundry	762	620
- Chapter set up costs	-	250
- Wetlands Trust	-	105
- Sponsorship	10	119
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</b>	<b>37448</b>	<b>42761</b>
Projects:		
- Whio	1159	808
- Gretel	949	312
- Pateke	5506	2932
- Wetlands	10995	1399
- Sinclair Wet. Op. Exp.	12600	19676
- Sinclair Wet. Develop.	5000	2601
- Pearce Wet. Op. Exp.	1208	4638
- Study Grants	500	1140
<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES</b>	<b>37917</b>	<b>33506</b>
Research - G Dumbell	31840	30000
General:		
- Donation to NZWWT (Life membership reserve)	6000	
- Freight & Duty	1763	807
- International Visitors	-	198
- Conference fees	3182	784
- Subscription - I.W.R.B.	181	-
- O'seas waterfowl permit	48	-
Depreciation	6930	6927
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>125309</b>	<b>114983</b>
Excess Expenditure/Income (Income/Exp)	8738	(1780)

**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
AS AT 31 MARCH 1992**

	1992 \$	1991 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Accounts Receivable	-	3423
Payments in advance	195	1500
Inventories	7814	8753
GST Recoverable	4064	3036
Bank - Westpac	750	-
	12823	16712
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Bank - Westpac	10399	5923
Accounts Payable	-	3148
Rural Bank - Pearce Wetlands	10664	10664
<b>Term Liabilities</b>		
Rural Bank - Pearce Wetlands (Note 1)	39481	43078
Term Loan - Westpac (Secured)	-	-
Sinclair Wetlands	5000	5000
Pearce Wetlands	-	5000
NZ Waterfowl & Wetlands Trust Loan	6000	-
	71544	72813
<b>WORKING CAPITAL (Deficit)</b>	<b>(58721)</b>	<b>(56102)</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS (see schedule) (Note 2)</b>	<b>376908</b>	<b>403027</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>318187</b>	<b>346925</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS AND RESERVES</b>		
Balance as at 1 April 1991	273925	272145
Excess of Expenditure/Income	- 8738	-
Income/Expenditure	-	1780
Balance 31 March 1992	265187	273925
Revaluation Reserve	53000	73000
	318187	346925

Treasurer: *John G. ...* President: *J. E. ...*

**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
SINCLAIR WETLANDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1992**

	1992	1991
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grazing	3334	5005
Sundry Donations	919	2160
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4253</b>	<b>7165</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Managers Allowance	5000	5000
Rates	1467	1876
Telephone	754	552
Electricity	138	124
Bird Food	1232	1519
Travel Expenses - meetings	1735	1551
R/M - Buildings, Equip & Mach	342	4389
R/M - Fencing	106	-
R/M - Water supply	281	-
Insurance	1220	891
Fertiliser	-	1671
Advertising	102	2025
Weed and Pest control	197	56
Sundry	-	22
Professional Services	26	-
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>12600</b>	<b>19676</b>
Interest on Term Loan - Westpac	774	1094
<b>DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>2601</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>18374</b>	<b>23371</b>
<b>EXCESS EXPENDITURE/INCOME</b>	<b>14120</b>	<b>16206</b>

**DUCKS UNLIMITED NEW ZEALAND INC  
SALES ITEMS TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1992**

	1992	1991
Stock on Hand 1/4/91	8753	9799
Purchases	3391	5472
Sales	5023	13006
Stock on Hand 31/3/92	7814	8753
<b>PROFIT FOR YEAR</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>6488</b>

**INTRODUCING OUR NEW DUCKS UNLIMITED  
NEW ZEALAND LOGO**



At this year's annual conference the DUNZ President, David Rice, unveiled the new Ducks Unlimited New Zealand logo. This logo has been under development over the past year and with this issue of "Flight" the logo is being launched to all members and friends of Ducks Unlimited New Zealand, both here and overseas. Shortly the logo will also appear on our letters, envelopes and certificates, and all members will be sent a window decal so you can clearly display your support for New Zealand wetland conservation on your car, or at home. Following this will be the introduction of our new membership brochure as we begin a sustained drive to increase our membership.

The elements of the logo have been carefully chosen to make a bold statement about what Ducks Unlimited New Zealand stands for. It clearly identifies us, within both the National and International conservation communities, as an organisation who is singularly concerned with wetland and waterfowl conservation and is thinking globally while acting locally.

The dominant feature of the logo is the international Ducks Unlimited duckhead

design. This illustrates our links as part of the international Ducks Unlimited family, and our concern for the conservation of all waterfowl populations.

Behind the duckhead is the distinctive New Zealand wetland image of a flax bush in flower. This element of the design identifies our primary concern for New Zealand wetlands as the New Zealand flax is endemic to this country and does not naturally occur anywhere else in the world. It also compliments the duckhead to illustrate the links between the animal and plant worlds of any healthy wetland.

The third element of a wetland, the water itself, is also included in the bottom corners of the design, while the background skyline

reminds us that wetlands are part of an overall landscape, and must not be seen in isolation from the countryside which surrounds them.

Above the horizon is the Southern Cross, another distinctive New Zealand feature which reinforces our uniqueness from a global perspective.

The final part of the logo is the colours which make it up. The blue and the green that have been selected are representative of the natural colours that occur in wetlands, while also being in keeping with colours which are now associated with environmental awareness. This will be taken one step further with the production of our new stationery items which will all be printed on recycled papers. We can think of no better way to illustrate our concern for conservation in New Zealand than through the use of environmentally friendly products.

With the launch of our new logo we have also introduced a new gold DUNZ lapel pin. This is available through DU Sales for \$4.00 and can be worn by both men and women as both casual and formal wear. Additional window decals will also be available through DU Sales in the near future.

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# AUSTRALIAN CHESTNUT TEAL IN NEW ZEALAND

JIM MOORE



The Chestnut Teal is the top bird. All the rest are Grey Teal.

**Chestnut Teal have now been observed at the Manawatu estuary during the duckshooting season for two consecutive years.**

A single immature male was found there in June 1991 (the first record of this species for New Zealand) and two immature males and a female were there in June 1992.

Chestnut Teal in immature and female plumages are very similar in appearance to Grey Teal and their identification at the Manawatu estuary is due in large part to the excellent viewing conditions which exist there and the comparative tameness of the Grey Teal flock with which they associate.

Because Chestnut Teal are much more sedentary than the closely related Grey Teal the occurrence of vagrants outside their

normal range in south east and south west Australia is generally assumed to be due to juvenile birds being caught up in nomadic flocks of Grey Teal. The presence of immature birds in the Manawatu in 1991 and 1992 indicates therefore that irruptions of Australian Grey Teal into New Zealand occurred in both of these years.

It would appear quite likely therefore that other immature Chestnut Teal have occurred elsewhere in New Zealand but have gone unnoticed, and some may even have been seen as Grey Teal. The main differences between immature male Chestnut Teal and Grey Teal are listed below as a guide to identifying any birds suspected of being Chestnut Teal.

a) green gloss on crown

- b) reddish-brown breast with darker brown spots
- c) whitish patches on flanks
- d) blackish-brown under tail

In addition to these specific points (which may not all be present) the Chestnut Teal are somewhat darker brown overall and are slightly heavier birds.

These birds can be distinguished from the native Brown Teal by their white wing bar (yellow-brown in Brown Teal) and by their red eye lacking a white eye ring.

If any Ducks Unlimited member has seen such a bird I would be most interested to hear from them.

Jim Moore  
32 Brook Street,  
Lower Hutt

## WHANGAMARINO WETLAND UPDATE

As "Flight" goes to press, it has come to DU's attention that all the objections to the proposed weir scheme in the Whangamarino have been overcome. Timing for construction of the weir to begin has not been set. We will endeavour to keep all members updated as more information becomes available.

## KAITUNA WETLAND UPDATE

We have just been notified by the Dept. of Conservation that the major engineering works for the restoration of the Kaituna Wetland in the Bay of Plenty are nearing completion. This has involved the installation of new culverts and a facility to be able to pump water into the reserve as opposed to pumping it into the Kaituna River. Once this work is completed channel clearing will ensure that the water will be able to be distributed to the various parts of the reserve. This work is a major victory for wetland conservation in the Bay of Plenty, an area which has lost virtually all of its wetlands. Ducks Unlimited involvement has included the promotion of the project after it had become stalled by local government restructuring, and the provision of some technical advice through the experience of Ron Coley from DU Canada. Future work will involve the enhancement of habitat quality in the area so that the reserve can reach its full potential.

## GROUP TO VISIT DU CANADA

If any member is interested in attending the DU Canada Convention in 1993 to be held in Edmonton and the opening of the Oak Hammock Marsh Conservation Centre in Winnipeg, please contact the DU Secretary. It is hoped that a group of DUNZ people will be able to make up a party to attend these events and hopefully reduce the travelling costs. The planned trip is due to take place in May-July 1993 with dates to be confirmed shortly.

## MORE BROWN TEAL RELEASES

A further release of Brown Teal took place in August in the Bay of Islands. A large flock of birds was released on the Purerua Peninsula

which has been the site of several recent releases. In conjunction with this, three pairs were released on Urapukapuka Island, a predator free haven in the bay itself and only a stones throw from one of the largest mainland sites of Brown Teal. This release follows up two previous releases, and

although breeding has not yet been confirmed, indications are that the birds have remained on the island for an extended period of time. With continuing improvements with habitat on the island, we are confident that Urapukapuka will be as successful as Tiri Tiri Matangi Island.

## MEMBERSHIP

Since the July issue of "Flight" we have received further Silver, Bronze and Trade Memberships which we would like to gratefully acknowledge

**SILVER SPONSOR:**  
Bruce Buchanan Ltd

**BRONZE SPONSOR:**  
Mr N. Candy  
JF & DH Chetwin  
Mr R.K. Dawson  
Mr Mike Finlayson  
Mr Malcolm Lewis  
Ms Diane Pritt  
Mr & Mrs Reed  
Mr Mark Timms  
Ms Caroline Carey

**TRADE MEMBERS:**  
Birdlands Nature Reserve Trust  
Mr C Bowen  
Mr D.L. Christie  
Custom Conservatories  
Duck Designs  
Kennedy's Ltd  
Teri McClelland  
Motueka River Guides  
Teletronics  
G.C. Thomson  
Grant Mackay

## Carved Spectacle



A superb miniature brown teal drake carved from Totara by Steve Gibbs. Photo: G. Girvan



## Join D.U. Help preserve N.Z's Waterfowl and Wetlands

- Junior Member (under 16) \$11 yr
- Contributor Member \$30 yr
- Trade Member \$45 yr
- Bronze Sponsor \$60 yr
- Silver Sponsor \$125 yr
- Gold Sponsor \$250 yr
- Life Member \$2000

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### NATIONAL RAFFLE

Thank you to all members who have already purchased raffle tickets.

Please remember that all tickets must be returned before October 30th to be in the draw. If you intend buying or selling your tickets please return these to:

Freepost 3246  
Ducks Unlimited  
P O Box 9795  
Newmarket  
AUCKLAND

### ART PRINTS

Limited edition signed prints Pauline Morse's Brown Teal painting are now available from DU Sales. This quality print which appeared on the cover of the July issue of "Flight" can be obtained for \$65.00 GST inclusive. All funds raised from the sale of this print are committed to our conservation projects.

### NEW APPOINTMENT TO NZ WATERFOWL AND WETLANDS TRUST

Dr John Craig, Associate Professor of Zoology at Auckland University has recently accepted appointment as a trustee of the NZ Waterfowl and Wetlands Trust. John is the Director of the Centre for Conservation Biology and is DU's scientific advisor. Many of us who had the pleasure of listening to John at our July conference will realise the wealth of practical experience he will bring to this position.

### B J BALL PAPERS SUPPORTS CONSERVATION

DU is privileged to have received a major donation from B J BALL PAPERS. This donation of recycled stationery will be used to produce our new letterhead and associated items bearing our new logo. The use of recycled stationery firmly identifies DU as a conservation organisation, and the Board would like to sincerely thank BJBALL PAPERS for their generous support.

### MAJOR DONATION FROM BOOK SALES

Earlier this year DU received a major cash donation from Kerry Butler as a result of sales of his book; DUCKSHOOTERS:

SPORTSMEN AND CONSERVATIONISTS which can be purchased from DU Sales. Members who have read the book will remember that Kerry pledged to make this donation to DU. The Board thanks Kerry for his very generous support and apologises that this donation was not acknowledged in an earlier issue of "Flight."

### OKIWI STATION PURCHASED

Following the mention in the July FLIGHT DU News, about Landcorp's impending sale of Okiwi Station, DOC has now announced that they have completed the purchase of the property. This purchase secures the single most important site for Brown Teal in the world along with habitat for a number of other rare plants and animals. DU now looks forward to assisting DOC wherever we possibly can to ensure Okiwi Station remains a haven for NZ's rarest duck - the Brown Teal.

### BLUE DUCK SITTING

The '92 Blue Duck breeding season has got off to a flying start with two females already incubating eggs. Broadlands Wildfowl Trust and Staglands in Upper Hutt will be keeping a watchful eye on their expectant mothers. DU is hoping for better results this year after no ducklings were successfully reared in the '91 season.

### GREY TEAL NEST BOX WORKING

Several Auckland Chapter members once again braved the winter weather to gather for a grey teal nest box working bee. Nearly 200 boxes have been prefabricated by the chapter members and of these 100 have already been distributed to the chapters around the North Island. DU members who frequent wetland areas may sight grey teal more often than in the past, and this possible increase in numbers can be directly attributed to the erection of this important habitat. If any members are keen to assist with further nest box construction, please contact the Operation Gretel project supervisor, David Rice on (09) 2998330 (bus).

# NATIONAL SALES ITEMS

## BOOKS

Duckshooters: Sportsmen & Conservationists .....	20.00
Complete Book Australian Birds (Readers Digest) .....	85.00
Coloured Key to the Waterfowl of the World .....	14.50
New Zealand Birds .....	11.30
The Hawaiian Goose .....	25.50
Ponds and Lakes for Wildfowl .....	54.00
Wildfowl by Eric Hosking .....	50.00
Wetlands by Gordon Stephenson .....	15.00

## STATIONERY

DU Ballpoint Pens Clic Bic - per box of 10 .....	11.20
DU Maxipens - per box of 10 .....	12.50
DU Maxipens - single .....	1.50
Waterfowl Note Paper and Envelopes - set of six .....	6.00
Postcards - Mute Swan/Brown Teal 10 pack .....	4.00

## APPAREL

DU Hat - Blue/Grey (one size fits all) .....	25.00
DU Jersey - Red/Green/Blue (state size) ..	76.00
DU Polo Shirt - Dark Blue .....	40.00

## BADGES

DU Decal .....	1.20
DU Cloth Shoulder Patch .....	9.60
DU Canada 50th Anniversary Badge .....	5.60
DU Duck Head Badge - Large Gold .....	6.75
DU Duck Head Badge - Small Gold/White & Green .....	5.60
DU Duck Head Stick Pin .....	5.60

## GENERAL

### Limited Edition Art Prints

Blue Duck Art Print by Paul Martinson (Members Price) .....	85.00
Shoveler Art Print by Russell Jackson (Members Price) .....	85.00
Mallard Art Print by Janet Marshall - numbered & unsigned .....	49.50
Fenn Traps Mk 6 .....	36.00
DU Duck Head Flag 62cm x 44cm .....	41.00
DU Cam-O-Paint .....	10.00
DU Ashtray .....	4.60
DU Bottle Opener .....	4.20
DU Key Ring .....	4.60
DU Key Ring Nail Clippers .....	4.20
DU Letter Opener .....	4.20
DU Tea Caddy Spoon .....	4.20
DU Teaspoons .....	4.20
DU Plastic Ruler .....	1.50
DU Plastic Mugs - set of 3 assorted colours .....	2.00
Number Plate Surrounds (Pairs) Red, Blue, Green .....	33.00
Engraved Crystal Decanter .....	50.00
Roll Bag .....	24.00
Camo Back Pack .....	36.00

## 10% DISCOUNT

off selected items

Roll Bag .....	\$21.00
Jerseys .....	\$68.50
Polo Shirts .....	\$36.00
Hats .....	\$22.50

Orders through Sales Dept

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